

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) system includes a mapping module (218) at an SGSN (Serving GPRS Support Node) and a port assignment module (220) at a GGSN (Gateway GPRS Support Node). The port assignment module (220) can assign each IP address to a plurality of I/O ports (such as TCP ports). The mapping module (218) maintains a mapping between IP address and I/O port for a given connection. In operation, all available TCP ports are assigned a given IP address until the ports available are exhausted. A new IP address is then assigned to the same ports.

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